



## *City of Miami Springs, Florida*

The Miami Springs City Council held a **WORKSHOP MEETING** in the Council Chambers at City Hall on Monday, August 4, 2003, at 7:00 p.m.

### **1. Call to Order/Roll Call**

The following were present:

Mayor Billy Bain  
Councilman Jim Caudle  
Councilman Peter Pacheco  
Councilman Rob Youngs

Absent:

Vice Mayor Eric Elza

Also Present:

Interim City Manager/Bldg. Official Michael A. Sprovero  
Finance Director Charles G. Marshall  
Human Resources Director Loretta M. Boucher  
City Planner Richard E. Ventura  
Elderly Services Director Karen Rosson  
Police Captain Pete Baan  
Downtown Administrator Octavien A. Spanner  
City Clerk Magalí Valls

### **2. Invocation:** Mayor Bain offered the invocation.

**Salute to the Flag:** The audience participated.

### **3. Workshop on Proposed Fiscal Year 2003/2004 Budget**

Interim City Manager/Building Official Michael A. Sprovero thanked all the Department Heads for working diligently to keep the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2003/2004 in line with this year's budget.

Mr. Sprovero proposed a freeze on merit increases for all General Employees for the next calendar year beginning January 1, 2004. He explained that nineteen employees have already received merit increases this calendar year, and there are fourteen employees who are due an increase during the first three months of Fiscal Year 2003/2004. Mr. Sprovero stated that it would not be fair to penalize those fourteen employees, and salary adjustments would be made in the respective department budgets, totaling \$21,534.00.

To answer Mayor Bain's question, Mr. Sprovero stated that merit increases are based on the employee's anniversary date during the calendar year from January 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup>. He reiterated that it would not be equitable to cut the merit increases for the employees that are due an increase during the last three months of the calendar year.

Mr. Sprovero also proposed a 1% Cost of Living (COLA) increase for all General Employees only. He stated that no Department Heads or Assistant Department Heads would be receiving a Cost of Living increase.

Finance Director Charles G. Marshall stated that the total General Fund Ad Valorem taxes **revenue** is \$5,988,470, which is computed at the proposed 8.65 millage rate. The current year property assessments total \$728,745,939, computed at 8.65 mills, with 95% considered collectable. The total Ad Valorem tax revenue would decrease if Council reduces the millage rate.

Mr. Marshall said that all other taxes are the same as last year, with the exception of a few that were increased 2-3% based on the information received from the State. Excise taxes were previously in a separate fund and he placed this revenue in the General Fund, totaling approximately \$2,150,000. He explained that the figures for occupational licenses and all permits are based on the information provided by the Building Official, which is the revenue that the City expects to collect next year.

Mr. Marshall stated that the budget figures for revenue and expenses are very conservative, and if revenues exceed budget, the excess would be added to the fund balance.

Councilman Youngs asked what would be the total amount of Ad Valorem taxes based on the current millage rate of 8.15.

Mr. Marshall said that the amount would be approximately \$5,442,000 based on the 8.15 millage rate.

To answer Councilman Caudle's question, Mr. Marshall verified that the total budget is based on the 8.15 millage rate and the excess \$346,000 was added to the Contingency Fund. He explained that the amount in the Contingency Fund would decrease as the millage rate is reduced.

Councilman Youngs inquired if the revenues for this year came in at 95% or higher.

Mr. Marshall responded that the revenues are slightly less than 95% this year, and the total revenue was approximately 2% higher last year.

Councilman Pacheco asked why the Law Enforcement Trust Fund revenue is not shown for previous years.

Mr. Marshall explained that trust funds were eliminated in the new GASB 34 format, and the Law Enforcement Trust Fund has become a Special Revenue Fund. He stated that \$80,000 is budgeted to fund the Community Policing Office, and there is no way to determine how much revenue the City would receive during the year. Mr. Marshall added that the Law Enforcement Trust Fund earns interest on a \$1.5 MM Certificate of Deposit.

Councilman Youngs asked if the lease revenue for the Sprint Tower is decreasing every year.

Mr. Marshall confirmed that the cellular tower revenue should increase and the total is estimated to be \$40,000 next year, including the revenue from Nextel. He explained that the projection of \$52,728 for Fiscal Year 2002/2003 is high.

Finance Director Charles G. Marshall stated that the amounts for **City Council** Travel Costs and Dues, Memberships and Subscriptions increased slightly. He explained that the separate funds for Liability Insurance and Computer/Communications were eliminated, the expenses were adjusted and distributed throughout all departments, and he would not expect the overall expenses to go over budget.

Finance Director Charles G. Marshall stated that the total amount for Salaries in the **City Manager's** budget is based on 2.5 employees, which is the same as this year, and hopefully the amount would cover the compensation package for the new City Manager.

Mr. Marshall said that the cost for health insurance is basically the same, and he increased the amount by 15% pending receipt of the proposals.

Mr. Marshall explained that Travel includes the City Manager's car allowance and half the car allowance for the Assistant City Manager. He said that the figures may have to be changed slightly, but the amount should not go over budget.

Councilman Youngs asked Mr. Marshall if he included a 15% increase for health insurance in the budget, with the understanding that the employees would fund a portion or all of the increase, and then Council would make a final decision regarding this issue in September.

Mr. Marshall verified that he included a 15% increase in the budget for health insurance costs. He explained that if the cost increases more than 15%, the employees could make up the difference, or it could be taken out of the Contingency Fund. Mr. Marshall stated that he would know cost of health insurance before the final budget hearing, and at this point he is not making any recommendations about increasing the employee participation.

Mr. Sprovero stated that a committee is reviewing the Request for Proposals for health insurance and

they would make their recommendation this week, and the Administration would then make a recommendation to Council.

Mayor Bain asked Mr. Marshall how it was determined that the health insurance increase would be approximately 15%.

Mr. Marshall stated that 15% was only an estimate. He explained the current insurance agent informed him that the increase could be closer to 20%, and other people informed him that the increase would be approximately 15%.

Finance Director Charles G. Marshall stated that the salaries in the **City Clerk's** budget are for the City Clerk and the Deputy City Clerk. The pension costs are 1.36% of the salaries.

Councilman Youngs asked for an explanation of the pension fund contribution over the past years.

Mr. Marshall explained that the Actuary determines how much the City must contribute to replenish the pension fund or keep it at the current level. Four years ago, the City's contribution was 2.5%, and two years ago the fund was at a level where a contribution was not needed. This year the fund is at a level that requires a contribution of 1.36%, and this amount is based on the Actuary's recommendation.

To answer the Mayor's question, City Clerk Magali Valls explained that Contractual Services includes funds for an election, should Council decide to hold a special election on the Charter amendments.

Councilman Youngs asked what account includes funds for the Code supplements and web site.

The City Clerk responded that \$5,000 in the Printing and Binding account would cover the cost of the Code supplements, binding of Ordinances, Resolutions, and Council Minutes, and for printing business cards and proclamations. She explained that the cost of the Internet site that allows the residents to access the Code of Ordinances is also included in the Printing and Binding account.

Mayor Bain asked if the amount for Printing and Binding is higher due to the Code of Ordinances being available on the Internet.

Ms. Valls stated that the City Council passed more ordinances this past year, causing the cost of the Code Supplements to increase considerably.

Finance Director Charles G. Marshall stated that the **City Attorney's** budget increased \$14,500 over last year. He explained the City Attorney is doing more work and this year's expenses are approximately \$96,000.

Councilman Youngs asked if the City Attorney's budget includes funds for special services like contract negotiations for the Golf Course and zoning matters.

Mr. Marshall stated that in most cases the funds for these services are included, but the negotiation of the Golf Course contract would be charged to the Golf Course. He explained that any work that is related to the Enterprise Funds is charged to the respective fund.

Finance Director Charles G. Marshall stated that the **Human Resources** budget is the same as last year, except for an increase of \$2,000 in Advertising and Promotions due to additional employment advertising.

Councilman Pacheco asked why there were no payroll taxes listed in the **City Planner's** budget.

Finance Director Charles G. Marshall clarified that the payroll taxes totaling \$6,453 should be included in the City Planner's budget, which changes the total expenses to \$130,320.

To answer Mayor Bain's question, City Planner Richard E. Ventura explained that the \$20,000 for Professional Services would pay for an Evaluation and Appraisal Report, which is mandated by the State of Florida Department of Community Affairs. He explained that the law requires that every municipality in the State of Florida must provide a progress report showing how their Comprehensive Plan is being maintained, how it is being implemented, and the success thereof.

Mr. Ventura stated that the preparation of the Evaluation and Appraisal Report would consist of a lot of research and public workshops. He is concerned about the workload in the Planning Department, and because he does not have a planning assistant, he will need outside help. The \$20,000 is based on a proposal that he received from Florida International University and he is waiting for a quotation from Post, Buckley, Schuh and Jernigan, Inc.

Mayor Bain stated that the projection for Professional Services for Fiscal Year 2002-2003 is \$19,646.00, and only \$3,890.00 has been spent as of May 31, 2003. He asked if the remaining funds would carry over to next year.

Mr. Marshall explained that surplus funds are placed into the Fund Balance in the General Fund.

Mayor Bain asked why the total expenditures for the Planning Department increased \$6,000 over last year.

Mr. Marshall stated that salaries increased approximately \$4,100, which includes funds for a merit and Cost of Living increase. He added that the payroll taxes and pension expenses are higher.

Mayor Bain asked why the budget shows 1.5 employees.

Interim City Manager/Building Official Michael A. Sprovero explained that one-half of the Administrative Assistant's salary is charged to Planning.

Police Captain Pete Baan explained that he was present on behalf of Police Chief H. Randall Dilling who was absent due to medical reasons.

Finance Director Charles G. Marshall reviewed the **Police Department** salaries and position detail. He explained the salaries are based on the proposed step increases and a 1% Cost of Living increase. The Executive Salaries include the Chief, the Captain, and three Lieutenants. The Civilian employees are separate and Regular Salaries totaling \$1,984,000 are for sworn officers.

Mayor Bain asked how many sworn officers are there in the Police Department.

Captain Baan stated that there are 42 sworn officers, including the five officers in Administration.

To answer Councilman Caudle's question, Mr. Marshall confirmed that the City is reimbursed for the School Crossing Guards.

Councilman Caudle asked why the Repairs and Maintenance account increased to \$35,577.00.

Mr. Marshall said that \$30,577 covers maintenance contracts that were previously included in the Telecommunications Fund. The actual funds for repairs totals \$5,000, which is less than last year. He pointed out that the Fleet Fund decreased because there is a new line item for vehicles.

Mayor Bain asked if the Police vehicles are traded in when new vehicles are purchased.

Captain Baan explained that the patrol vehicles are passed down to the Public Works Department and eventually they are sold at auction. The Harley-Davidson motorcycles are traded in because they retain their value, and the City receives a good deal.

To answer the Mayor's question, Mr. Marshall stated that the cost of uniforms is included in Operating Supplies.

Captain Baan stated that the cost of uniforms is approximately \$85,000.00. He explained that the uniform contract was recently awarded, and the uniforms would be purchased before the end of this Fiscal Year.

Mr. Marshall stated that the Law Enforcement Trust Fund funds the Community Policing Office. He explained that the City pays the salaries for the Public Service Aides, which were previously funded through a grant program and the Law Enforcement Trust Fund pays for all the operating expenses.

Councilman Pacheco stated that the Police Department Position Detail shows that three Public Service Aides are grant funded and this should be changed to zero.

To answer the Mayor's question, Senior Administrative Assistant Linda Foytik explained that the

Rentals and Lease line item includes funds for the office rental and the copy machine rental.

Mayor Bain pointed out that the **Senior Center** receives \$130,000 from the General Fund and the balance of the budget is funded through grants.

Finance Director Charles G. Marshall explained that the Senior Center Expenditure Detail is shown on one page and the amount of revenue received from grants is shown separately in the General Fund.

Mayor Bain asked if there are funds included in the budget for weekend meals.

Elderly Services Director Karen Rosson verified that funds are budgeted for weekend meals.

Councilman Caudle asked if there are enough funds to provide the same level of service to the elderly.

Ms. Rosson stated that the budget is very conservative and it would provide the same level of service as the current year. She said that additional services would require additional funding, and the same level of service would continue with the proposed budget.

Councilman Caudle asked Ms. Rosson how much additional funding she would like to have for the Senior Center.

Ms. Rosson explained that the proposed budget provides the opportunity for weekend meals for those seniors who are homebound, but not for the seniors who participate in the congregate meal program. She suggested that Council could give consideration to funding a replacement vehicle at some point.

Ms. Rosson informed Council that the City is leasing a vehicle from the County for \$1.00 per year, which the Recreation Department also utilizes, and she is going to investigate to see if the County would like to provide an updated vehicle for the upcoming year.

Councilman Caudle complimented Ms. Rosson and the Staff for a job well done. He said that he did not know of any other City funded program that is more important than the services provided by the Senior Center.

Finance Director Charles G. Marshall stated that there are six employees in the **Building Department** and that Salaries includes \$60,000 for a Building Official.

Mayor Bain asked if \$238,329 was the correct amount for salaries including the \$60,000.

Interim City Manager/Building Official Michael A. Sprovero explained that he is proposing a reorganization of the Building, Zoning, and Code Enforcement Department Staff. He explained that there is currently one Administrative Assistant I position that will remain, and the position of Code

Enforcement Manager will be eliminated. A Code Enforcement/Occupational License Specialist position was created that will eliminate the Administrative Assistant II position, and there will be two Administrative Assistant I positions.

To answer Councilman Caudle's question, Mr. Sprovero stated that the person holding the position of Code Enforcement Manager would not be reassigned to another position within the City.

Councilman Youngs asked if eliminating this position would be a political issue for Council this year.

Mr. Sprovero explained that the Code Enforcement Manager is James R. Borgmann. He had already informed Mr. Borgmann about the elimination of the position, and he is looking for other employment. Mr. Sprovero added that he is trying to keep the Department budget in line.

Councilman Pacheco stated that the Code Enforcement Manager's position was created last year and there is a proposal to eliminate the position this year.

Mr. Sprovero explained the duties that would be covered by the Code Enforcement/Occupational License Specialist.

Councilman Pacheco asked who would oversee the Code Enforcement Officers.

Mr. Sprovero stated that the Code Enforcement Officers would report directly to the Code Enforcement Specialist and ultimately they would report directly to him. He explained the current Administrative Assistant II would be promoted to the Code Enforcement/Occupational License Specialist.

To answer Councilman Youngs' question, Mr. Sprovero stated that due to the increased construction activity, the funds for Contractual Services were increased to cover the cost of the inspectors. There are large construction projects planned next year in the City, and the cost of the inspections is covered by the building permit fees.

Councilman Caudle asked if the inspections were made on a timely basis in order to encourage people and new businesses to move into the City.

Mr. Sprovero explained the current inspectors are very cooperative and they perform building inspections and plan reviews on a part-time, as needed basis for several municipalities. The inspectors are available on a daily basis, except for the structural engineer who comes in once a week, and there have been no complaints about the service.

In the **Non-departmental budget**, Mayor Bain asked if the \$200,000 Reserve for Golf Course Operations should be included in the Total Expense column for amended Fiscal Year 2002-2003.

**Finance Director Charles G. Marshall answered affirmatively. He will correct the Total Expense column for 2002-2003 amended budget, and change the percentage for the**



**Unclassified accounts shown on page five of the budget.**

Councilman Pacheco asked why Contractual Services was increased to \$60,000.

Mr. Marshall stated that Contractual Services was increased to cover the cost of the publication for the quarterly News Bulletin, which is approximately \$50,000.

Professional Services includes \$100,000 for the salary and insurance for Downtown Administrator Octavien Spanner, which is approximately \$84,000.00.

To answer Mayor Bain's question, Mr. Marshall stated that the health insurance for the Downtown Administrator is approximately \$12,000.00, and his salary is \$72,000.00. The Professional Services account includes an additional \$16,000.00 to cover other miscellaneous expenses.

Mr. Marshall explained that the Non-Departmental-Unclassified Account is basically a contingency, other than designated expenses, and the funds are only spent with the approval of the City Manager and City Council.

Mr. Marshall corrected his previous statement about the News Bulletin. He advised Council that the funds are included in the Advertising and Promotions account, and Contractual Services was increased to cover annexation expenses.

To answer Councilman Pacheco's question, Mr. Marshall explained that no funds were budgeted for annexation in Fiscal Year 2002-2003, and the expenses for the annexation consultant came out of the Contingency Fund and other Non-Departmental accounts.

Mayor Bain suggested that annexation could be a separate line item in the budget. He asked the Finance Director to show what accounts were charged to pay The Corradino Group for annexation expenses.

Mr. Marshall stated that Grant Consultant John Adams was paid \$27,100 and The Corradino Group was paid \$30,000 from the Non-Departmental Contingency Fund.

Councilman Pacheco agreed with Mayor Bain that a separate line item would show exactly how much is spent for annexation.

To answer Councilman Pacheco's question, Mr. Marshall stated that the Contingency Fund totals \$662,938 based on the proposed 8.65 millage rate, and the amount would decrease as the millage rate is reduced.

Mayor Bain asked about the Downtown Revitalization expenditures and if the budgeted amount of \$105,799 for Fiscal Year 2002/2003 would be spent this year.

Mr. Marshall stated that the total amount budgeted for Downtown revitalization would not be spent without Council approval. Expenditures include \$1,700.00 paid to Mooving Colors, and \$6,712 to Adkins and Associates.

**Mayor Bain requested the expenditure detail for each line item in the Unclassified Non-Departmental Account.**

Councilman Pacheco stated there was \$105,799 budgeted for Revitalization in Fiscal Year 2002-2003, of which \$44,000 was used through May 31, 2003. He asked why there is nothing budgeted for Fiscal Year 2003-2004.

Downtown Administrator Octavien A. Spanner stated that Council must make a decision on a few projects. He said that consultants were hired from Florida International University to perform the N. W. 36<sup>th</sup> Street Corridor Study.

Mr. Marshall explained that Council must give direction as to how much they would like to spend for Downtown Revitalization and the necessary funds would be allocated from the Contingency Fund.

Mr. Spanner stated that he was not involved in last year's budgeting process and Council made their recommendations to the City Manager as to what projects they wanted for the future. He said that Council would have to approve the recommendations made by the Florida International University for the N. W. 36<sup>th</sup> Street Corridor for the planning process, which would be approximately \$10,000 to \$15,000.

Mr. Spanner explained that advertising is important because revitalization is a City effort. The façade program will begin soon, and any activities that are held Downtown or in conjunction with the Golf Course would require funding of approximately \$2,000 to \$5,000.

Councilman Pacheco pointed out that nothing is budgeted for Downtown Revitalization.

Mr. Marshall explained that \$910,000 is budgeted in Non-Departmental and Council can give direction to spend it any way they wish.

Councilman Youngs said that regardless of what Council decides to do with the projected \$910,000 based on 8.15 mills, they must decide how fast and what direction revitalization will take. He said that priorities should be set and it would be helpful if Mr. Spanner would bring forth specific budget recommendations, including the contributions from grant funds.

Mr. Spanner stated that in discussions with former City Manager Maria V. Davis, she recommended allocating approximately \$25,000 to Revitalization. He said that a presentation is planned for August 25, 2003, and that he submitted several memoranda to the City Manager, of which Council should

have copies. Mr. Spanner offered to provide that information to Council through the Interim City Manager.

Councilman Youngs stated that reports were submitted to the City Manager, which were included in the City Manager's Weekly Update, and Mr. Spanner could provide copies for Council.

Mayor Bain asked Mr. Spanner to supply the necessary information in order to justify his job position.

Councilman Pacheco advised Mr. Spanner that he should provide a roadmap for 2003-2004 as to what direction he would like to go, the estimated cost, and what grant funds are anticipated. This would give Council something to follow and the projects could be prioritized.

Mr. Marshall stated that Council gave direction to the Administration not to spend money from the General Fund on Revitalization, and no grant funds have been received yet.

Mayor Bain hoped that Council would hold to the previous direction to the Administration not to spend funds on Revitalization because \$44,000 has been spent this year.

Mr. Spanner said that he would make Council aware of what funds the City would receive for Revitalization, and grant funds totaling \$249,000 are committed for the façade program. He added that another \$100,000 was received for Revitalization.

Mayor Bain commented that the University of Miami and Florida International University have conducted studies and he is not privy to know how much was allocated for the Downtown studies. He said the expenses are adding up and, in his opinion, the City is breaking even considering the salary and insurance benefits for the Downtown Administrator.

Councilman Pacheco stated that in all fairness to Mr. Spanner, Council is including his salary in next year's budget, and it is not known how much funding he will secure next year.

Mr. Spanner explained that the City of Miami Springs is out of the entitlement zone, and the City does not qualify for as many grants as other cities that have empowerment zones and a lower median income, as required by the Community Development Block Grant or Federal government. He felt that he made a promise and that he has delivered.

Councilman Caudle said the bottom line is that Council is asking for a plan for next fiscal year in order to budget for Downtown Revitalization.

Mayor Bain suggested that the duties of the Downtown Administrator could be expanded to include the promotion of all of Miami Springs, including the Golf Course and Recreation Center. He said that in his opinion, the job is too centralized for one entity in Miami Springs, and the salary is too much.

Mr. Spanner said that as soon as he was brought on board he advised the City Manager that his job

should be to explore all economic development activities in the City, not just the Downtown area, and this is the reason he became involved in the N. W. 36<sup>th</sup> Street Corridor study. He has a very good relationship with the staff at the Golf Course, but he must receive directives from the City Manager in terms of how much work to be done, and to see how the work compares with his compensation.

**Interim City Manager/Building Official Michael A. Sprovero stated that he would direct Mr. Spanner to prepare and submit a plan that he would place on the agenda for the September 2, 2003 Workshop meeting.**

Councilman Caudle felt that the Golf Course should be promoted throughout the County and State because many opportunities are being missed due to lack of promotion and marketing.

Mayor Bain said that he would like the Downtown Administrator to be more versatile, and that the Administration should provide more guidance.

**Councilman Youngs said that Council has asked Mr. Spanner for his recommendations for Downtown revitalization to consider, and he would also like his recommendations for the N.W. 36<sup>th</sup> Street Corridor.**

Mr. Spanner suggested that during one of the Regular Council meetings a discussion could be held on the various projects that he presents to the City Manager, and Council would then give direction as to the work they would like done. He said that after he receives the directive, it is only a matter of implementing what Council wants.

Mr. Marshall pointed out that \$150,000 is allocated to the Reserve for the Golf Course and \$200,000 is allocated to the Hurricane Fund.

Councilman Pacheco asked if the funds reserved for the Golf Course were used in prior years.

Mr. Marshall affirmed that the Golf Course reserve funds were used in prior years.

Mr. Marshall reminded Council that they could adjust the amount of the Hurricane Fund.

**Councilman Youngs said that he would like to know what expenses the City incurred after Hurricane Andrew and the “No Name Storm”.**

Mr. Sprovero stated that the City received a reimbursement from FEMA for approximately \$795,000 after Hurricane Andrew.

Councilman Pacheco was concerned that that the City must initially pay for out of pocket expenses after the storm and then wait for the reimbursement from FEMA.

Councilman Youngs suggested that the \$200,000 could remain in the Hurricane Fund and Council

could look at the amount later during the budget process.

Mayor Bain said that he would rather allocate as little as possible to the Hurricane Fund and place the balance of the funds in the Contingency Fund.

Councilman Youngs explained that in the past the budget has not included a line item for a Hurricane Fund.

Mayor Bain stated this is the first time the budget has included a separate line item for the Hurricane Fund. He felt that the Finance Director should have asked Council for direction as to what amount they would like to allocate to the fund, and not just arbitrarily place \$200,000 in the fund.

Mayor Bain said that he was under the impression that \$200,000 was required for the Hurricane Fund.

**Councilman Pacheco suggested that Council look at what the City paid out of pocket after the “No Name” Storm and Hurricane Andrew, before reimbursement, and use that as a basis.**

Mr. Marshall stated that **Trust and Agency Funds** became revenue funds under GASB guidelines.

Councilman Youngs asked about the **Law Enforcement Trust Fund**.

Mr. Marshall explained that the Trust Funds became Special Revenue Funds under the new GASB 34 guidelines.

Finance Director Charles G. Marshall stated the debt service for the **General Obligation Bonds** is \$395,117.50, which is covered by .543 mills.

To answer Councilman Youngs’ question, Mr. Marshall explained that Council has no discretion as to the amount of debt service. He said that options for refinancing the General Obligation Bonds would be placed on the Council agenda for August 18, 2003.

Finance Director Charles G. Marshall pointed out the Debt Service Disbursement Schedule for the utility System **Revenue Bonds** showing the City would pay out \$831,662.50 in 2004, which is budgeted in the Sewer Fund.

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Councilman Youngs reported that he is working very hard to map out a strategy for the annexation application. He said first step would be to schedule a meeting with County Commissioner Rebeca Sosa and City Attorney Jan K. Seiden, and he will come back to Council with specific items that would be helpful in that regard.

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Councilman Pacheco asked for the status of the grant award for the Canal Street Linear Park.

Interim City Manager/Building Official Michael A. Sprovero stated that the City missed out on the grant opportunity this year due to a discrepancy on the ownership. He will verify this fact for Council.

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Councilman Caudle thanked Finance Director Charles G. Marshall for a good job. He congratulated Council for trusting the Administration's judgment.

Mayor Bain stated that he asked many questions about the budget so that the public would be well informed.

#### **4. Adjourn**

There being no further business to be discussed the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

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Billy Bain  
Mayor

**ATTEST:**

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Magali Valls, CMC  
City Clerk

Approved as written during meeting of: 8/25/2003

Transcription assistance provided by S. Hitaffer

Words ~~stricken through~~ have been deleted. Underscored words represent changes. All other words remain unchanged.